



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 26

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Strong thunderstorms moved through portions of the state, which helped relieve dry soil conditions and stress to major crops, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Some northern and central areas received heavy rain and wind damage. Extent of the flooding and wind damage is unknown at this time. Recent precipitation will help pod fill in soybean fields. Plants in many corn fields have turned brown and ears are advancing rapidly toward maturity. Corn harvest was underway in a few early maturing fields during the week.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 4.7 **days suitable for field work**. **Corn condition** is rated 42 percent good to excellent compared with 73 percent last year at this time. Ninety-three percent of the corn acreage is in the **dough** stage compared with 90 percent last year and 85 percent for the average. Sixty percent of the corn acreage is now **dented** compared with 54 percent last year and 45 percent for the 5-year average. Ten percent of the corn acreage is **mature** compared with 3 percent last year and 5 percent for the average. Ninety-seven percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 92 percent for both last year and the 5-year average, respectively. **Soybean condition** is rated 41 percent good to excellent compared with 73 percent last year at this time.

Third cutting of **alfalfa hay** is 70 percent complete compared with 84 percent last year and 70 percent for the 5-year average. Major activities during the week included: harvesting seed corn and silage, moving grain to market, preparing grain bins and equipment for harvest.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 1% excellent, 8% good, 22% fair, 27% poor, and 42% very poor. Hay shortage and increasing hay prices are major concerns for livestock producers. Pastures have dried up in many areas around the state.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn in Dough	93	89	90	85
Corn in Dent	60	41	54	45
Corn Mature	10	3	3	5
Soybeans Setting Pods	97	92	92	92
Soybeans Shedding Lvs	9	4	2	4
Alfalfa Third Cutting	70	56	84	70

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	8	16	34	37	5
Soybean	6	15	38	35	6
Pasture	42	27	22	8	1

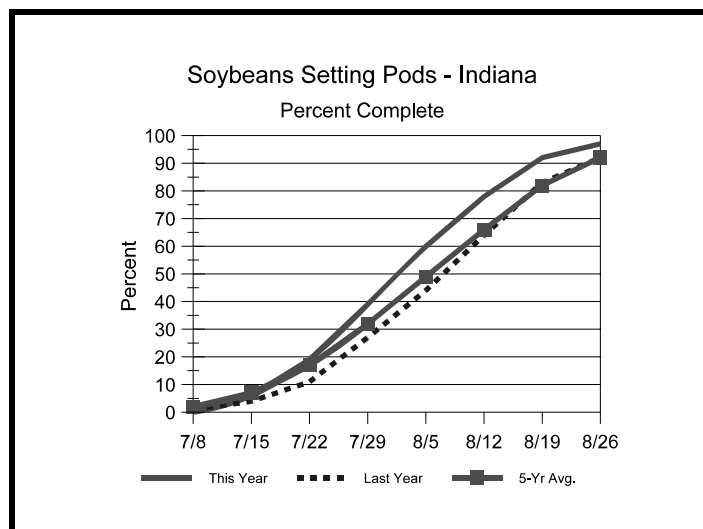
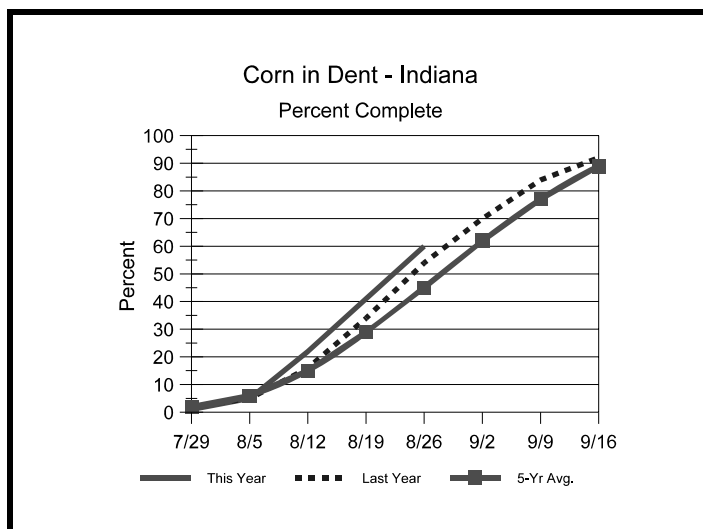
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	32	37	2
Short	22	31	18
Adequate	37	29	74
Surplus	9	3	6
Subsoil			
Very Short	31	37	3
Short	30	38	17
Adequate	34	24	76
Surplus	5	1	4
Days Suitable	4.7	6.0	6.0

CONTACT INFORMATION

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http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Soybean Sudden Death Syndrome

- SDS can occur even in a dry season.

August 17, 2007

The growing season of 2007 has been uncharacteristically dry. Soil conditions were favorable for field operations in late April and early May. Planting operations progressed mostly in proper seedbeds. So far, based on previous years' experience, conditions have been unfavorable for SDS this year. Severe SDS is often associated with excess soil moisture as plants move into reproductive stages. However, in fields with a history of SDS the disease may develop in the absence of wet soil during this period of plant development. Even in this dry year, soybean fields should be monitored for presence of SDS.

Sudden death syndrome is caused by the soil-borne fungus *Fusarium virguliforme* (previously *Fusarium solani* f. sp. *glycines*). The fungus occurs in soybean fields in nearly all areas of Indiana, and can cause SDS when conditions are favorable. *Fusarium virguliforme* invades soybean roots early in the season, but it is only at mid-season when plants are in reproductive growth stages that aboveground symptoms of SDS occur. Heavy rains during reproductive stages are a predisposing factor for SDS, but symptoms have appeared this year in some fields that have not received heavy rains. During

reproductive stages of soybean the fungus can produce toxins in the root system, which the plant translocates to the leaves, where they induce foliar symptoms. Symptoms of SDS have appeared this year later than normal, and so far primarily in highly susceptible soybean varieties growing in fields with a history of SDS.

In affected plants, leaf tissue between the major veins turns yellow, then brown. Soon, the leaflets die and shrivel. In severe cases they drop off, leaving the petioles (leaf stalks) attached. Stem symptoms offer the best clues for diagnosis of SDS and for distinguishing this disease from brown stem rot. When split, the lower stem and taproot of a plant with SDS will exhibit a dark cortex, but white to tan pith. Brown stem rot may cause similar foliar symptoms, but the leaflets tend to remain attached to the petioles. Plants with brown stem rot have a dark pith, but the cortex is not much discolored. If a plant with symptoms of SDS is dug up when soil is moist, there may be small, light-blue patches on the surface of the taproot. These are spore masses of the SDS fungus. As the plant dries, this color will fade, but when it is seen, in conjunction with the other symptoms mentioned above, a diagnosis of SDS is strongly indicated.

Early planting into cool soils favors SDS. It is not possible to predict how severe or widespread

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday August 26, 2007

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air						Avg 4 in Soil Temp	April 1, 2007 thru August 26, 2007				
	Temperature				Precip.			Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	94	58	76	+6	5.05	5		18.35	-0.21	44	2609	+152
Francesville	91	55	74	+5	4.91	5		23.37	+4.86	51	2469	+203
Valparaiso_AP_I	90	56	73	+4	5.41	6		17.15	-2.04	43	2557	+315
Wanatah	90	52	72	+3	5.29	7	76	22.17	+3.46	54	2363	+217
Winamac	90	57	74	+5	4.80	6	72	23.09	+4.58	53	2486	+220
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	91	57	73	+3	6.17	7		25.15	+6.41	59	2413	+39
South_Bend	89	56	73	+4	4.41	7		22.09	+4.05	49	2595	+364
Young_America	92	57	76	+6	3.77	6		15.84	-1.86	53	2609	+282
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	91	58	73	+5	3.58	7	73	15.90	-1.96	57	2435	+308
Fort_Wayne	91	58	74	+4	7.14	7		19.22	+2.50	54	2639	+309
West Central(4)												
Greencastle	95	59	79	+6	2.87	4		16.70	-4.24	45	2629	+9
Perrysville	95	58	79	+9	2.56	4	81	15.19	-4.75	44	2865	+418
Spencer_Ag	95	62	80	+9	0.91	3		20.25	-1.22	44	2731	+260
Terre_Haute_AFB	97	60	81	+9	1.08	3		16.79	-3.06	45	2889	+281
W_Lafayette_6NW	94	55	77	+7	4.39	5	78	18.93	+0.41	49	2667	+348
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	93	62	80	+8	3.50	4		14.13	-4.64	49	3032	+445
Greenfield	95	61	79	+8	3.32	5		14.75	-5.90	58	2767	+289
Indianapolis_AP	94	63	81	+9	2.33	2		13.06	-5.71	46	3078	+491
Indianapolis_SE	94	61	79	+8	2.46	2		16.37	-3.06	50	2765	+194
Tipton_Ag	92	59	77	+8	3.66	5	78	15.95	-2.87	55	2575	+322
East Central(6)												
Farmland	92	56	75	+7	3.74	5	74	16.78	-1.48	53	2505	+305
New_Castle	92	59	77	+8	2.72	4		15.69	-4.23	43	2557	+305
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	100	68	85	+10	0.73	1		11.91	-7.02	40	3391	+386
Freelandville	94	65	81	+9	0.95	2		15.73	-4.02	44	3058	+364
Shoals	97	62	80	+8	0.97	1		16.33	-5.11	40	2869	+264
Stendal	99	66	83	+10	0.78	3		14.82	-6.41	46	3376	+545
Vincennes_5NE	99	65	83	+11	0.49	2	86	17.47	-2.28	46	3185	+491
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	98	68	83	+11	1.37	4		16.37	-5.62	51	3119	+525
Oolitic	99	65	82	+11	0.34	2	83	14.03	-6.65	39	2821	+329
Tell_City	97	68	84	+9	0.88	3		18.04	-3.64	34	3315	+440
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	99	66	81	+11	0.72	2		12.25	-7.82	36	2910	+545
Greensburg	97	59	80	+10	0.73	2		14.72	-5.43	44	2941	+524
Scottsburg	99	62	81	+9	0.65	1		17.36	-3.00	41	2997	+317

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Soybean Sudden Death Syndrome (Continued)

SDS will be this year, but growers should be on the alert for appearance of symptoms over the next 2 or 3 weeks. Plants killed early by SDS may produce no seed. Plants that develop symptoms later may produce almost as many pods and seed as healthy plants, but seed may be smaller.

There is no remedy for plants that develop SDS. Fungicides will have no effect on this disease. Growers should keep records of which fields develop SDS. Even better, growers should map problem areas within fields. SDS rarely affects entire fields. More often, the disease shows up in patches—low areas or areas of compacted soil are often the first to show symptoms. After the first appearance of symptoms, patches may enlarge and more patches may develop as the season progresses. Identification of problem fields can be useful for future planting decisions. A grower should choose a soybean variety that is less susceptible to SDS for planting into fields with a history of SDS. Although there are no highly

resistant varieties, some are much less susceptible than others. Late planting may reduce the risk for SDS, but this may not apply when May is unusually cold.

Although *Fusarium virguliforme* alone can cause SDS, there has long been an observed association between this disease and presence of the soybean cyst nematode in a field. Recent studies at Purdue have shown that symptoms become much more severe when both the fungus and the nematode are present in a field. If a field develops symptoms of SDS and the grower does not know the status of soybean cyst nematode in that field, soil should be tested to determine population levels of this pest.

Andreas Westphal, Scott Abney, and Gregory Shaner, Purdue University, Department of Botany & Plant Pathology. This article also has photos, which can be viewed at: <http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/pestcrop/2007/issue20/PandC20.pdf>, page 4.

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